

DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

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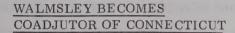
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November 1, 1979



HARTFORD, Conn. -- The Rt. Rev. Arthur E. Walmsley, 51, was consecrated Bishop Coadjutor of the Episcopal Diocese of Connecticut in ceremonies Oct. 27 at the Roman Catholic cathedral here.

Bishop Walmsley was elected June 15 at a special convention of the diocese and, as bishop coadjutor, will automatically succeed the Rt. Rev. Morgan Porteus as bishop of the diocese.

The service was held at St. Joseph's Cathedral at the invitation of the Most Rev. John F. Whealon, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Hartford, to allow more people to take part in the ceremony than would have been able to in the Episcopal Cathedral, Christ Church. The vast cathedral was host to over 2,000 people, including more than 300 who marched in three separate processions to open the service.

Presiding Bishop John M. Allin was chief consecrator, and was assisted by Bishop Porteus, the Rt. Rev. Frederick Wolf, Bishop of Maine and president of Province I, and the Rt. Rev. John M. Burgess, retired Bishop of Massachusetts, who also preached. A fourth co-consecrator was the Rt. Rev. F.C. Darwent, Bishop of Aberdeen and Orkeney of the Episcopal Church in Scotland, whose predecessor, the Rt. Rev. Robert Kilgour, had been a consecrator of Samuel Seabury as Bishop of Connecticut and first Episcopal Bishop in the U.S. in 1784.

In a link to the more immediate past, the flower offering was in memory of the Rt. Rev. Arthur Lichtenberger, who had ordained Bishop Walmsley priest and who later was Presiding Bishop when Bishop Walmsley began a ten-year term on the staff of the Episcopal Church Center. Flowers from that offering were distributed to shut-ins throughout the diocese at Bishop Walmsley's request.

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Bishop Walmsley was rector of St. Paul's Church, New Haven, Conn. at his election to the episcopate. He has also served parishes in St. Louis, Mo., and Massachusetts.

The bishop joined the Church Center staff in New York in 1958 as executive secretary for the Christian Citizenship department. He served on the staff of the Religion and Race Commission of the National Council of Churches and then as associate director of the Christian Social Relations department at the Church Center. He has been active in urban ministry and currently serves as vice-president of the Church and City Conference.

As bishop coadjutor, he will take over responsibility for mission congregations, ordination processes and parish calling consultation.

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